

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A gasket material to be mounted on an engine of a vehicle, comprising:

a metal plate;

a film made from silica and a reaction product of an acid component and a metal or a compound of a metal other than chromium or a chromium compound, the film formed directly on the metal plate, and

a rubber layer formed-bonded by vulcanization on at least one of opposite surfaces of the metal plate through the film, wherein a rubber for forming the rubber layer comprises one of NBR, fluoro rubber, silicon rubber, acrylobutadiene rubber, HNBR and EPDM.

2. (Previously Presented) A gasket material according to Claim 1, wherein the acid component for the film is comprised of at least one member selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, orthophosphoric acid, condensed phosphoric acid, anhydrous phosphoric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrofluoric acid, fluorocomplex and organic acid.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Original) A gasket material according to Claim 1, wherein the acid component is blended at a ratio of 5-50 wt% in solid content of a treatment solution for forming the film.

5. (Original) A gasket material according to Claim 1, wherein the silica is blended at a ratio of 10-60 wt% in the film.

6. (Original) A gasket material according to Claim 1,  
wherein the metal or the compound of the metal is blended at a ratio of 1-30 wt% in solid  
content of the treatment solution for forming the film.

7. (Currently Amended) A gasket material to be mounted on an engine of a vehicle,  
comprising:

a metal plate; and

a film made from silica and a reaction product of a mixture of a first acid component and  
a second acid component and a metal or a compound of a metal other than chromium or a  
chromium compound,

wherein the first acid component is one member selected from the group consisting of  
phosphoric acid, orthophosphoric acid, condensed phosphoric acid, anhydrous phosphoric acid,  
acetic acid, formic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrofluoric acid, fluorocomplex and organic  
acid, and

the second acid component which is different from the first acid component and is  
selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, formic acid, hydrofluoric acid and  
fluorocomplex.

8. (Currently Amended) A gasket material to be mounted on an engine of a vehicle,  
comprising:

a metal plate;

a film made from silica and a reaction product of an acid component and a metal or a  
compound of a metal selected from the group consisting of Fe (iron), Zn (zinc), Ni (nickel), Al  
(aluminum), Ti (titanium), Zr (zirconium), Mg (magnesium), Mn (manganese), Ca (calcium), W

(tungsten), Ce (cerium), V (vanadium), Mo (molybdenum), Li (lithium) and Co (cobalt), the film formed directly on the metal plate, and

a rubber layer formed bonded by vulcanization on at least one of opposite surfaces of the metal plate through the film, wherein a rubber for forming the rubber layer comprises one of NBR, fluoro rubber, silicon rubber, acrylobutadiene rubber, HNBR and EPDM.

9. (New) A gasket material according to claim 7, wherein a rubber layer directly formed on at least one of opposite surfaces of the metal plate through the film.